

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/586430
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Remarks

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 108 under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph.

Claims 1 and 108 have been amended to overcome this rejection.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5, 8, 10-13, and 16-17 and 108 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,048,705 to *Kucera* in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,187,394.

It is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is now patentable over Kucera.

For example, the present invention as claimed in claim 1 now claims the step of :

applying a pressing force (F) essentially axially along in a longitudinal axis wherein the force is applied to at least one of the components to be assembled by the assembly unit;

converting the essentially axial pressing force (f) intended to generate the relative movement into the relative rotating or pivoting movement about the common longitudinal axis (14) by the co-operating threads which are configured at a pitch angle to convert said essentially axial pressing force into said rotating or pivoting movement

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This feature is not shown or disclosed in *Kucera*. *Kucera* does not mention any type of axial pressing force being converted into rotational force. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention as claimed in claim 1 is patentable over the above identified reference to *Kucera*.

In addition, among the many reasons that the present invention is patentable over the above mentioned art, *Kucera* also does not disclose the following step:

inserting a sealing surface of the sealing device in the open region of the interior of the housing container;

Kucera does disclose using a rubber sealing ring 14, however this rubber sealing ring is not a sealing surface as claimed in claim 1.

The Examiner attempts to overcome this failing of *Kucera* by introducing *Glocker*.

The *Glocker* patent involves placing a cap and then heating up the container to create a negative pressure on the container. With the present invention, this type of negative pressure inside of the container could result in the container breaking. Therefore, for this additional reason, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention as claimed in claims 1 and 108 are

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patentable over the above identified patents taken either singularly or in combination.

Claim 108 has also been amended in a similar manner to claim 1 as well. Therefore, for the above identified reasons relating to claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that claim 108 is patentable as well.

For example claim 108 has been amended as follows:

applying a essentially axial pressing force (F) essentially in a longitudinal axis wherein the force is applied to at least one of the components to be assembled by the assembly unit;

converting the essentially axial pressing force (F) intended to generate the relative movement into a relative rotating or pivoting movement about the common longitudinal axis by the co-operating threads;

creating a relative rotating or pivoting movement from said essentially axial pressing force acting on the co-operating threads, wherein the movement which is effected about a common longitudinal axis in order to assemble the closure device and the housing container, and

Neither *Kucera* nor *Glocker* disclose these features. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention as claimed in claim 108 is patentable over the above identified references taken either singularly or in combination.

Dependent claims 2-5, 8 and 10-17, remain in the application. These claims depend from claim 1. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the remaining claims are patentable over the above cited reference taken either singularly or in combination. Therefore, early allowance of the

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remaining claims is respectfully requested.

With the invention as claimed in claims 1 and 108, because only a simple longitudinal force is necessary to close the screwed on cap, there is no need for automatic fitting machines. Now, this design results in the reduction of the cost of the automatic assembly machines because now only a simple longitudinal movement has to be performed by applying force. The rotational movement then occurs because of this force.

Claims 6, 7, 9, and 18 as well as claims 19-107 have been canceled without. Therefore, the applicant reserves the right to file divisional or continuation applications based upon these claims.

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure: Abstract